

## 3.5 CULTURAL RESOURCES

---

This section of the EIR discusses the existing historical and cultural resources present at the project site and evaluates the potential impacts to those resources that could result from implementation of the proposed project. This analysis is based upon an archaeological and historical investigation, completed in December 2004 by John Nadolski, M.A., a Cultural Resource Specialist with Pacific Municipal Consultants, and Andrea Galvin, M.A. an architectural historian with Galvin & Associates. The archaeological and historical investigation is included as Appendix E of this EIR.

### 3.5.1 ENVIRONMENTAL SETTING

#### REGIONAL SETTING

There has been limited research conducted on the cultural resources within the vicinity of the project site until recently, as interior areas tended to be overlooked in favor of coastal areas. However, most of the research that has focused on the Monterey Bay, San Francisco Bay and along the coast is relevant to the prehistory of the Santa Clara Valley due to geography and interrelationships between the groups.

#### **Ethnography**

At the time of Euroamerican contact, Native American groups of the Costanoan language family occupied the area from San Francisco Bay to southern Monterey Bay and the lower Salinas River. This language family consists of approximately eight separate and distinct languages, and approximately 50 tribelets. The tribelets that occupied the area of Morgan Hill were Matalan, Pitac, and Chitactac. The Costanoan culture was dramatically affected by missionization by the Spanish, and information regarding its pre-contact organization is incomplete and inconsistent. The Costanoan languages were probably extinct by 1935, and in the 1971 the remaining Costanoan descendants united as a corporate entity identified as the Ohlone group of Native Americans.

#### **Euroamerican Contact**

Gaspar de Portola led an expedition to the area in 1769. Subsequent expeditions of the area included an expedition by Juan Bautista de Anza in 1776 along the route, which became known as El Camino Real. This was the beginning of euroamerican contact with the Native Americans in the area. The establishment of the missions by Padre Junipero Serra, beginning in 1770 with Mission San Carlos de Borromeo, Mission Santa Clara de Asis in 1777, and Mission San Juan Baustista in 1797, had a dramatic effect on the Native American populations. The Spanish attempted to convert the Native American population to Catholicism and incorporate them into the "mission system." This process disrupted traditional Costanoan cultural practices, and they were generally slow to adapt to the mission system. However, by 1810 most Native Americans in the area were either incorporated or relocated into local missions.

### **3.5 CULTURAL RESOURCES**

---

The Mexican period (1821-1848) in California was an outgrowth of the Mexican Revolution, and its accompanying social and political views affecting the mission system. In 1833, the missions were secularized and their lands divided into land grants called ranchos. Consequently, Costanoans, and other Native American groups across California, were forced into a marginalized existence working as 'vaqueros,' or cowboys, on the ranchos.

In the latter half of the nineteenth century, there was an ongoing and growing immigration of Euroamericans into the area, which was also accompanied by regional cultural and economic changes. Dispersed farmsteads slowly replaced the immense Mexican ranchos, and various crops replaced cattle ranching as the primary economic activity in the region. With the advent of the railroad in the late 1880s and the mechanization of farming, various groups immigrated to the area, including the Chinese and Japanese.

#### **City of Morgan Hill**

The Spanish established settlements in the cities of San José and Monterey by the late 1700s. Monterey Road was the primary route that connected these two settlements and ran through what is now known as Morgan Hill. The earliest settlements in the Santa Clara Valley were established along Monterey Road and included Madrone. The growth of Madrone and the Santa Clara Valley in general was accelerated by the construction of a railroad line between the cities of San José and Gilroy.

In 1835 Martin Murphy Sr., the grandfather of Diana Murphy, purchased the Mexican land grant known as Rancho Ojo de Agua de la Coche. Diana Murphy married Hiram Morgan Hill and took up residence on the property, which later became known as Morgan Hill Ranch. The railroad created a train stop called Morgan Hill and the town grew around this depot.

The town expanded rapidly in the late 1800s and was incorporated in 1906. During the 1970s-1980s, development dramatically increased with the opening of U.S. Highway 101. The population and economic development in the City of Morgan Hill and the surrounding area has continued to the present and it is changing from an agricultural area to a suburban residential area.

Native American archaeological sites in the Morgan Hill area tend to be situated on the Santa Clara Valley floor, in proximity of fresh watercourses, the base of hills, and on mid-slope terraces. The Morgan Hill planning area has a high potential for the presence of Native American archaeological sites, since it encompasses a variety of these types of environmental settings. There is no known Native American village found within the City of Morgan Hill or its sphere of influence. However, there are a total of twelve formally recorded sites within the City, including a probable major prehistoric trail, but none are within the project site.

### 3.5 CULTURAL RESOURCES

---

There are twelve properties in Morgan Hill that have been identified as designated cultural resources by the City. In addition, there are 42 additional properties identified for potential historical significance. A majority of the known archaeological resources in the City of Morgan Hill and the Morgan Hill Sphere of Influence have not been formally evaluated for either the National Register of Historic Place (NRHP) or the California Register of Historic Places (CRHR) or listed on county or local inventories.

#### PROJECT SETTING

There were four previous surveys performed within the project area of potential effects (APE) and two previous surveys completed within one-quarter mile of the APE. None of the previous surveys identified any prehistoric sites, historic sites, or historic buildings on or within the APE. The cultural resources staff of PMC conducted a pedestrian surface survey across the project site using 20 meter transects, because three residential structures and associated outbuildings greater than 45 years old are located on the project site.

Surface visibility was generally good across approximately 75 percent of the project site (i.e., this area is in agricultural production and was recently disced prior to archaeological survey). Surface visibility, however, across the remaining approximate 25 percent of the project site was limited by vegetation and other impediments (i.e., this area is planted in vineyards, used for equestrian boarding, and includes private residences and other structures used for storage). Despite the existing vegetation (e.g., vineyards and grasses) in parts of the project site, there were open spaces, which provided sufficient surface visibility for adequate survey of the proposed project site.

Current archaeological and historical investigations for the proposed project did not identify any prehistoric sites, historic sites, or any isolated artifacts within the APE. However, these investigations did identify three private residences and associated structures (e.g. tank houses, barns, and other storage facilities) within the project site that were constructed over 45 years ago. This investigation identified the primary structures' style of architecture, age, primary use, and the significance to the City of Morgan Hill. All of the primary structures are located at 1195 Cochrane Road (APN: 728-37-001) and each building's specific findings are discussed in detail below.

#### 1195 Cochrane Road A

The primary structure is a single story, Craftsman Style residence constructed in 1930. This style of architecture was popular between 1905-1930 and is characterized by gabled, shingled roofs, front porch centered on the building with a matching roofline, and usually an abundance of woodwork on the interior.

There are two structures, including a woodshed and tank house, associated with this primary structure. **Figure 3.5-1** shows the residence and tank house located at 1195

### 3.5 CULTURAL RESOURCES

---

Cochrane Road A. The wood shed is at the rear of the building and is used for storage and a kennel for dogs. The two-story tank house was built the same year as the primary residence and is located opposite of the front entrance. Tank houses were commonly built in the 1900s when wells were the source of water. These tank structures provided a high platform to increase water pressure and facilitate distribution of water, and provided an open space below for animal shelter, tool storage or a spare room. The construction materials used on this structure are typical and include clapboard and wood siding with a metal roof.

#### 1195 Cochrane Road B

The primary structure is similar to the previously mentioned primary residence, however, it was built in 1912 and has a side entrance and square bay window in the rear. There are six structures associated with this residence, including two wood-sided barns, a wood-sided shed, a metal-framed hay barn, a pump house and a restroom. The hay barn and restroom were constructed in the 1970's or 1980's when the property was an equestrian boarding facility. The age of the other structures is uncertain and did not consist of any unique design or construction. All buildings lacked maintenance. Photographs of this residence and associated outbuildings are shown in **Figures 2.5-2A, 2.5-2B, and 2.5-2C**.

#### 1195 Cochrane Road C

This primary structure located at 1195 Cochrane Road C is a single story, 'Ranch Style' residence constructed in 1940. This style of architecture was popular between 1935-1970 and is characterized by low-pitched hipped-roofs, stucco exterior and attached garages. Records show this building was moved to its current location from Santa Clara in 1977. The structure has been remodeled, which has compromised the overall integrity. There are no other structures associated with this structure except for a full-length shed addition at the side of the building. Photographs of this residence are shown in **Figure 2.5-3**.

### 3.5.2 REGULATORY SETTING

#### CEQA GUIDELINES

CEQA establishes guidelines at Section 15064.5 for the identification of historical resources and determining their historical significance. CEQA Section 15064.5(a)(3) presents the following eligibility criteria for inclusion of historical resources in the California Register of Historic Resources (CRHR). A resource is considered significant if it:

- Is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of California's history and cultural heritage;





Residence at 1195 Cochrane Road A



Tank House at 1195 Cochrane Road A

### 3.5 CULTURAL RESOURCES

---

*This page intentionally left blank.*





Front entrance to residence at 1195 Cochrane Road B



Rear of residence at 1195 Cochrane Road B

### 3.5 CULTURAL RESOURCES

---

*This page intentionally left blank.*





Barn at 1195 Cochrane Road B



Barn at 1195 Cochrane Road B

### 3.5 CULTURAL RESOURCES

---

*This page intentionally left blank.*